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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Lou Sheldon, Traditional Values Coalition, Washington DC, offered the following prayer:

Loving and living Lord, we greet You in the name of Jesus Christ. Our hearts and minds stand in awe of Your creative order of all things.

Please convert our hearts to believe and obey Your ways as taught in the Holy Scriptures.

We know that life is so short and Your desire is for all people to come to a saving knowledge of Your redeeming grace and have a personal relationship to You.

Forgive us for our sins and lead us to reject temptation in our lives. May we become sensitive to those with whom we work, especially our wives, children, and family. Give us strength to help the helpless and love the hurting ones.

May we learn from Your Holy Word what is morally right and what is morally wrong. May we come to fully understand that the nation whose God is the Lord is the nation that shall be blessed. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TRAFICANT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### WELCOME REV. LOU P. SHELDON

(Mr. CALVERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to welcome my dear friend, Rev. Lou Sheldon. We are all very blessed to have Reverend Sheldon with us today.

I want to thank him for his uplifting words of prayer for today's session. Indeed, we must pray each day for the strength to uphold the spiritual and moral principles that have guided our great Nation.

Since his ordination, Reverend Sheldon has pastored churches for more than 20 years. Today, he works tirelessly to educate and inform the 31,000 churches with whom he is affiliated. He has been a wise counselor and good friend to me.

His dedication to the Almighty and his strong moral convictions are an inspiration to us all. All of us are grateful for your good work and dedication to the Almighty.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHAMBLISS). The Chair will receive fifteen 1-minutes on each side this morning.

### ENDING WELFARE FOR LOBBYISTS

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the Wall Street Journal reports that by almost a 3-to-1 margin, the American people agree tax dollars should not be used to fund groups to lobby the Government. I certainly agree with that principle, and I believe that as part of our reforms, we have got to end welfare for lobbyists.

People in groups have every right to petition their Government. They ought to do more of it. But the American people should not have to pay more and more taxes so that some lobbying group that receives money from the Federal Government can spend more and more money up here lobbying to receive more and more money to come up here to lobby for more and more money. That is a vicious spending circle. It has got to stop. No wonder previous Congresses have been unable or unwilling to balance the budget.

Those trying to fight this much-needed reform say it is draconian. But 96 percent of the nonprofit groups who have not abused the process would not be offended. Let us pass this legislation now.

### INDEPENDENT COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE THE SPEAKER

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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